MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 MAY 1985

TIME: 12:10 - 2:45 pm
PLACE: Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton
DATE: Tuesday, 21 May 1985

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Zaikov, Hamilton, Jessen, Jones, Marshall, Holland and Mrs. Nash

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Baill and Mrs. Greenwald
Mr. George P. Cook, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS: Messrs. Galley, Kroek, Gross and Standing, N.J.W.S.A
Mrs. Abigail Barrows, D & R Canal Coalition
Mrs. Ursula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition
Mr. Paul Stern, State Park Service
Mr. Harvey Steinberg, Lawrence Township
Mr. Larry Pitt, Canal Society of N.J.

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Mr. Kirkland opened the meeting and stated that all applicable provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been properly met.

Mr. Kirkland then informed the commissioners that he had met with Mr. Graham and Senator Foran to discuss the implementation of the Canal Commission's DEVELOPMENT GUIDE. Senator Foran reported that he would introduce a resolution requesting $500,000.00 for planning for the development of the Canal Park.

MINUTES

Mr. Jessen moved and Mrs. Nash seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of 16 April 1985. The motion was unanimously carried.
LEASES & PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented the following leases to the Commissioners for their consideration and approval:

Delaware Valley Boat Association - Picnic Area, Boat Launch, & Lavatory - $0.00

Upon a motion by Mr. Jessen and a second by Mrs. Nash the above lease was unanimously passed.

Mr. Amon then presented a proposed plan for the Department of Treasury to construct a parking area along West State Street behind the building. They wanted to know before this project was started whether the Commission would be opposed to such a parking area. Mr. Amon said with proper landscaping and an appropriate path he didn't see any problems.

Mr. Jones then moved approval conceptually with proper landscaping and path to be accomplished. This motion was seconded by Mr. Jessen and unanimously carried.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Baill presented the following review zone projects to the Commissioners for their approval:

84-0447
84-0555
85-0561

Robert Coghan
D.B. Realty
C.L.D. Associates

Mr. Baill was asked to attach key maps to each project so that the Commissioners can locate the projects.

Mr. Hamilton then moved to approve the above projects. His motion was seconded by Mr. Zaikov and carried unanimously with the exception of Mr. Jessen who abstained.

Mr. Zaikov then requested that Mr. Baill report at the next meeting on the problems of compliance that he sees.

Mr. Baill pointed out that the Canal Commission does not have an inspection staff to inspect all of the detention ponds, basins, within the review zone.

Mr. Zaikov said that he was not satisfied and that basins should be spot checked.

Mr. Jessen felt that the townships involved should have control of the basins. Mrs. Nash told him that he was overly optimistic about the township's responsibility. For example maintenance does not occur with single family houses, homeowners associations have to be set up.
COMMISSION MEETINGS

Mr. Zaikov requested and all Commissioners present concurred that future meetings begin promptly at 12:00 noon.

STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Marshall reported that the roofs for the Weston and Zarephath Canal Houses will be contracted soon. The other improvement projects approved by the Commission since autumn, 1984, have not been started due to the staff shortage in the Parks office.

STAFF REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Amon said that he would like authorization to hire one more full time employee who could be an assistant to the Review Zone Officer. This would not only allow more complete reviews of projects but it would free the Review Zone Officer to take on special projects that are presently the Executive Director's responsibility. Mr. Jessen moved that an Assistant Review Zone Officer be added to the staff. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6 MILE RUN AND 10 MILE RUN CULVERT REPAIRS

Mr. Kenneth Standing, consulting engineer to the WSA, presented plans and discussed work procedure for the repair of the culvert for 10 Mile Run and of the western (downstream) headwall for the 6 Mile Run culvert.

In both cases extensive efforts have been undertaken to determine the exact nature of the historic structure so that all reconstruction can be done correctly. The form, the size and quality of the stones, and the mortar will all replicate the original.

Construction is expected to occur on both structures between August and the end of 1985.

Mr. Amon reported that he and Jonathan Gell of the Office of New Jersey Heritage had been working with the WSA on these plans and both felt that this was an excellent project. He commended the WSA for their willingness to do the work in a manner that is consistent with the historic quality of the structures. He said, however, that a few minor details needed to be resolved and recommended conditional approval.

Mr. Zaikov moved approval of both plans conditioned upon resolution of details between the D & R Canal Commission and WSA staff and conditioned upon the inclusion of stones on the west headwalls of both culverts indicating the date of original construction and the date of reconstruction. Mr. Jessen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Buchanan expressed concern for several large trees near the 6 Mile Run Culvert. She was advised to meet with Paul Stern at the site to see if the trees can be saved.
REVIEW ZONE CHANGES

Mr. Amon told the Commission that he would like to have a review and critique of the regulations for the "A" portion of the Review Zone. He said that he had made inquiries and concluded that a good consultant could be hired for $2500 to do this job. The Commissioners suggested that the matter be looked into further and brought up again at the June meeting when all aspects of the regulations on public bidding had been considered.

FISCAL MATTERS

Mr. Holland moved approval for the Canal Commission to purchase an IBM Personal Computer, including word processing capabilities. This motion carried unanimously following Mr. Zaikov's second.

Mr. Hamilton then moved the approval of transferring left-over fiscal year 1985 funds into the appropriate Parks account. This money would be used for improvements to the Canal Park. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion which was unanimously carried.

DREDGING ISSUES

Mr. Amon reviewed the various issues which have arisen in regard to the dredging project and suggested that the Commission needed to find ways of restoring its public image. He said that for 10 years the Commission has worked with community groups and promoted the preservation and development of the Canal Park but all of that good will has been tarnished by events of the last several months.

The Commissioners generally felt that by working on the DEVELOPMENT GUIDE the Commission can demonstrate anew their commitment to the public benefit from the Canal Park.

CANAL PARK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

See attached report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Yours sincerely,

James C. Amon
Executive Director

KB
MEMO

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TO D & R Canal Commission

FROM Paul Stern

DATE June 21, 1985

SUBJECT Report to the Canal Commission May 22, 1985 to June 18, 1985

Over the course of the last month we have:

1) Begun installation of the electric service at the Griggstown Mule Drivers Barracks.
2) Maintained trash pick up operations.
3) Continued with brushing and mowing.
4) Continued cleaning schedule.
5) Installed signs at the Blackwells Mills and Griggstown Day Use Areas.
6) Continued with campsite renovations at Bulls Island.
7) Continued to construct bollards for use along railroad right-of-way.

Highlights:

1) Received 2 each Ford 1510 Tractors with mowers to replace two aging units.
2) Received 1 each Tag-a-long trailer to transport equipment.
3) Hired 12 seasonal employees to augment work force.
4) Rented port-o-johns for Kingston Day Use area.
5) Received a useable bid for the repair of the Weston Canal House.
6) Received preliminary surveys of property along Kingston Lock.
   Maps show property lines.

In the month to come:

1) Begin installation of gates and bollards along railroad right-of-way
   north from Stockton.
2) Maintain trash pick up, brushing and mowing operations.
3) Continue cleaning schedule.
4) Continue with campsite renovations at Bulls Island.

PS: des